

Fire Behavior - Frequently Asked Questions

Compilation of Questions from Geographic Area Briefings

NO.	FPA SUBJECT AREA	ANSWER BY	QUESTION / COMMENT ANSWERS
1.	Fire Behavior Simulation	Core	<p>Can the Canadian weather indices and crown fire estimates be used with this model?</p> <p>Canadian weather indices and fuel models are not used by FPA-PM.</p> <p>Scientific credibility and peer review are fundamental elements of the FPA development vision, so the FPA system will be defensible and applicable throughout the country.</p>
2.	Fire Behavior Simulation	Core	<p>Regarding a “fire event” within a specific FMU – it appears that this program assumes all fires will start in the middle of a homogeneous FMU. What about the ones that start on the edge of a FMU next to an entirely different FMU?</p> <p>There are several characteristics that help define the FMU. For example fuel types are defined by the fire planner and assigned an appropriate percentage for each FMU; so the FMU may not be homogeneous.</p> <p>Please don’t confuse the strategic modeling provided by FPA-PM with site specific tactical decisions made on the local unit. Historic fire occurrence at the edge of the FMU is not relevant to strategic planning.</p>
3.	Fire Behavior Simulation	Core	<p>With fire events drawn at random, how does FPA deal with the potential for a different answer each time it is run?</p> <p>There are statistical sampling methods available that ensure the sampling is random, but that the same set of fire events are used to create the fire scenario. So there is assurance that the analysis will produce the same outputs with the same inputs.</p>

